(c) if so, the details thereof for 2007-08, and the following two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The number of post offices housed in rented buildings in Karnataka is 1313 in the year 2006-07 and the annual rent paid in the year 2006-07 is Rs. 6.55 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir. There are schemes under Plan Head to provide funds for purchase of land and construction of post office buildings. In the year 2006-07 an amount of Rs. 1.09 lakhs was spent towards purchase of land in Karnataka. For construction of post office buildings an amount of Rs. 75.18 lakhs was spent in Karnataka during 2006-07.

(c) No funds for purchase of land has been allocated for the year 2007-08 as the Eleventh Five Year Plan proposal has not been approved as yet. However, an amount of Rs. 61.22 lakhs has been allotted for 2007-08 to Karnataka to complete construction of ongoing post office projects of Tenth Five Year Plan.

As regards information in respect of following two years is concerned, there is no proposal in view of pending approval of Eleventh Five Year Plan proposal.

Unsolicited telemarketing calls

1239. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks, mobile phone companies and other organizations make unwanted phone calls to mobile phone users to market their products and services;

(b) whether Government have formulated any guidelines to stop these unsolicited telemarketing calls to mobile phone users; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. A number of complaints regarding the receipt of Unwanted Commercial Calls from banks, credit card companies etc. have been received by the Government.

(b) and (c) On 5th June 2007, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a Regulation on "The Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications Regulations, 2007" for putting in place a mechanism called "National Do Not Call Registry (NDNC)" for curbing the unwanted telemarketing calls. On 6th June 2007, Department of Telecommunications has issued guidelines for registration of telemarketers.

Regulations for net-telephony

1240. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intend to bring some regulations for the net-telephony; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Land lines in rural areas of Bihar

1241. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that land lines of BSNL in rural areas of Katihar District, Bihar are not functioning properly; and

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last three years and the average time taken in their clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. Connections are working properly in rural areas of Katihar district, Bihar.

(b) Details of faults (year-wise) and average duration of fault clearance for the last three years are given below:

Sl. No.	Year	No. of complaints	Average duration for clearance of fault
1	2004-05	5444	6.00 hrs
2	2005-06	6896	5.30 hrs
3	2006-07	7962	5.00 hrs

Allocation of surplus defence spectrum

1242. SHRI VIRENDRA BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spectrum required for mobile operators is under use by Defence forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his department proposes to get the surplus spectrum released from the Ministry of Defence;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) in what manner the surplus Defence spectrum would be allocated among the new operators and the existing mobile operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A part of the redio frequency spectrum required for mobile services is in use by Defence services.